

**ABSTRACT**

The invention features methods of making living tissue constructs having a predetermined shape by providing a negative mold having a defined shape; suspending isolated tissue precursor cells in a hydrogel to form a liquid hydrogel-precursor cell composition; introducing the liquid hydrogel-precursor cell composition into the mold; inducing gel formation to solidify the liquid hydrogel-precursor cell composition to form a living tissue construct; and removing the living tissue construct from the mold after gel formation.

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